



# COLLIERVILLE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## COVID-19 Adult Sunday School & Group Covenant

*"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you;  
for this is the law and the prophets." ~ Matthew 7:12*

Community and fellowship are vital components of our Christian lives and spiritual development. Even during this season of living with Coronavirus, we desire to be together both in person and digitally. In the spirit of following the Golden Rule for the safety and comfort of all our class members, \_\_\_\_\_ class/ group supports and ensures the following steps are taken while meeting in person.

- Fully vaccinated attendees can share same space without mask and 6 feet spacing. Non-vaccinated attendees may wear mask and social distance.
- Social distancing is practiced while families and singles enter and exit the building.
- Non-vaccinated attendees should take their temperature before leaving home for the welfare of themselves and others. If temperature is over 100.4 or if attendee is experiencing other COVID related symptoms: including shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, attendee should remain home and seek care.
- Commercially, pre-packaged, individually wrapped items are permissible for gatherings.
- We agree to do the following to help expedite room readiness:
  - **First**, poll your class to find a rough estimate of those who want to return to in person Sunday school or mid-week group.
  - **Second**, work with the Associate Pastor and Building Manager 9-10 days prior to anticipated return date to
    - Assign an appropriate room according to anticipated attendance.
  - **Third**, take attendance in Planning Center or written to establish an in person and a virtual attendance class count.
  - **Fourth**, leave room as it was set up by taking all belongings so as to allow the cleaning crew to efficiently and properly disinfect after usage.

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Signature, Class or Group Leader

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SS Class or Group

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Date

**Here's some vital information regarding liability. Please don't return the Liability information.**

**Liability**

The Leader Council and Executive Staff contacted the church human resource lawyer about liability. These are the findings:

Governor Bill Lee signed the Tennessee COVID-19 Recovery Act on August 17, 2020. This law provides protection for churches as the term "person" in the bill includes "religious organizations." The law states:

"(b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, there is no claim **against any person** for loss, damage, injury, or death arising from COVID-19, unless the claimant proves by clear and convincing evidence that the person caused the loss, damage, injury, or death by an act or omission constituting gross negligence or willful misconduct."

"(4) "Person" means an individual, healthcare provider, sole proprietorship, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, trust, **religious organization**, association, nonprofit organization described in § 501(c) . . . "

It is our understanding that the law protects the church and church leaders as long as we are showing good faith to follow all the 'best practice' protocols.